

### Election/Restriction

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- I. Claims 1-8, drawn to a process of making a vehicle grille guard, classified in class 264, subclass 85.
- II. Claims 9-18, drawn to a vehicle grille guard, classified in class 293, subclass 142.

Applicant respectfully affirms the provisional election to prosecute the invention of Group I, Claims 1-8. Claims 9-18 have been withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner. Applicant requests that the non-elected claims be held in abeyance for prosecution in future divisional and/or continuation applications. To facilitate the prosecution of the present application, Claims 9-18 have been canceled.

### Objections to the Specification

The title to the abstract and the title of the invention were both objected to. The titles have both been amended pursuant to the Examiner's suggestion. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

### Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-5, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hashimoto et al. (Hashimoto, Japan 7-76,252). Claim 6 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 6 has been canceled and the limitations of Claim 6 have been included in Claim 1. Claim 6 originally depended from Claim 1. Thus, Applicant believes Claim 1 as amended is patentably distinguishable over the art of record. Likewise, Claims 2-5 and 8 which ultimately depend from Claim 1 are also

believed to patentably distinguish over the art of record. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

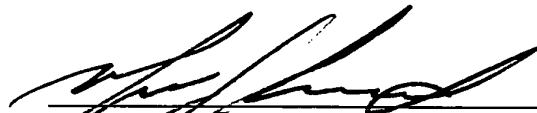
In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant would submit that all Claims are in a condition for allowance and thus Applicant requests that the Examiner pass the case to issue at his earliest possible convenience.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present amendment he should not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.

November 16, 1998  
Date

  
Michael J. Schmidt  
Reg. No. 34,007

P.O. Box 828  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303  
(248) 641-1600

Attorney Docket No. 7939A000006